

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL**

<b>(1) DEPARTMENT</b> Public Works	<b>(2) MEETING DATE</b> 1/28/2014	<b>(3) CONTACT/PHONE</b> Courtney Howard, Senior Water Resources Engineer (805) 781-1016	
<b>(4) SUBJECT</b> Request to: 1) receive a Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Management Plan implementation update; 2) consider a FY 2013-14 agreement with Carollo Engineers in an amount not to exceed \$1,484,161 to prepare a Supplemental Water Supply Options Feasibility Study; 3) consider a FY 2013-14 contract with Hollenbeck Consulting in an amount not to exceed \$90,000 for Professional Engineering Services; 4) consider a budget adjustment in the amount of \$1,574,161 from Flood Control District reserves to Flood Control Fund 19 for the agreements; 5) appointment of Megan Silcott as the Farm Bureau alternate member to the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Blue Ribbon Committee; and 6) create the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Advisory Committee. Districts 1 and 5.			
<b>(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION</b> It is recommended that the Board, acting as the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (Flood Control District): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Receive Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Management Plan implementation update in order to provide staff direction on recommended actions as the Board deems appropriate; and</li> <li>2. Consider a FY 2013-14 agreement with Carollo Engineers in an amount not to exceed \$1,484,161 to prepare a Supplemental Water Supply Options Feasibility Study for the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin (Supply Options Study Agreement – Attachment “1”); and</li> <li>3. Consider a FY 2013-14 contract with Hollenbeck Consulting in an amount not to exceed \$90,000 to provide technical assistance with the development of feasibility studies for the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin (Technical Assistance Agreement – Attachment “2”); and</li> <li>4. Consider a budget adjustment, by a 4/5 vote, in the amount of \$1,574,161 from Flood Control District reserves in Fund 1300000000 to Flood Control Fund 19 for the Supply Options Study and Technical Assistance Agreements; and</li> <li>5. Create the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Advisory Committee (Attachment “3”) and direct the Clerk to post vacancies pursuant to requirements of the Maddy Act; and</li> <li>6. Appoint Megan Silcott as the Farm Bureau alternate member to the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Blue Ribbon Committee.</li> </ol>			
<b>(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S)</b> Flood Control and Water Conservation District Fund (1300000000)	<b>(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT</b> \$1,574,161.00	<b>(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT</b> N/A	<b>(9) BUDGETED?</b> No
<b>(10) AGENDA PLACEMENT</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing (Time Est. ____ ) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Board Business (Time Est. <u>115 min.</u> )			
<b>(11) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Resolutions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contracts <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinances <input type="checkbox"/> N/A			
<b>(12) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR)</b> Carollo 19001373, Hollenbeck 19001372		<b>(13) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED?</b> BAR ID Number: 1314088 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4/5 Vote Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>(14) LOCATION MAP</b> Attached	<b>(15) BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT?</b> No	<b>(16) AGENDA ITEM HISTORY</b> <input type="checkbox"/> N/A    Date: 12/17/13; #35	
<b>(17) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW</b> Nikki J. Schmidt			
<b>(18) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S)</b> District 1 - District 5 -			

Reference: 14JAN28-BB-2

## County of San Luis Obispo



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Public Works  
Courtney Howard, Senior Water Resources Engineer

VIA: Paavo Ogren, Director of Public Works

DATE: 1/28/2014

SUBJECT: Request to: 1) receive a Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Management Plan implementation update; 2) consider a FY 2013-14 agreement with Carollo Engineers in an amount not to exceed \$1,484,161 to prepare a Supplemental Water Supply Options Feasibility Study; 3) consider a FY 2013-14 contract with Hollenbeck Consulting in an amount not to exceed \$90,000 for Professional Engineering Services; 4) consider a budget adjustment in the amount of \$1,574,161 from Flood Control District reserves to Flood Control Fund 19 for the agreements; 5) appointment of Megan Silcott as the Farm Bureau alternate member to the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Blue Ribbon Committee; and 6) create the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Advisory Committee. Districts 1 and 5.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Board, acting as the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (Flood Control District):

1. Receive Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Management Plan implementation update in order to provide staff direction on recommended actions as the Board deems appropriate; and
2. Consider a FY 2013-14 agreement with Carollo Engineers in an amount not to exceed \$1,484,161 to prepare a Supplemental Water Supply Options Feasibility Study for the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin (Supply Options Study Agreement – Attachment “1”); and
3. Consider a FY 2013-14 contract with Hollenbeck Consulting in an amount not to exceed \$90,000 to provide technical assistance with the development of feasibility studies for the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin (Technical Assistance Agreement – Attachment “2”); and
4. Consider a budget adjustment, by a 4/5 vote, in the amount of \$1,574,161 from Flood Control District reserves in Fund 1300000000 to Flood Control Fund 19 for the Supply Options Study and Technical Assistance Agreements; and
5. Create the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Advisory Committee (Attachment “3”) and direct the Clerk to post vacancies pursuant to requirements of the Maddy Act; and
6. Appoint Megan Silcott as the Farm Bureau alternate member to the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Blue Ribbon Committee

## **DISCUSSION**

On March 27, 2012, the Board, sitting as the Flood Control District, adopted a Groundwater Management Plan (Basin Plan) for the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin (Basin) pursuant to Assembly Bill 3030 (AB 3030), which was established by State Legislation in 1992 to encourage and provide a systematic way of managing groundwater basins throughout California. The Basin Plan was funded by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) through a grant with the City of Paso Robles. On May 1, 2012, the City also adopted the Basin Plan. The Basin Plan complies with Senate Bill 1938 (2002), which is required to seek DWR grants for groundwater projects and groundwater quality projects. The Board created a Blue Ribbon Committee (BRC) to help steer implementation of the Basin Plan, and status updates have been provided to your Board. Consistent with prior direction, this staff report includes an update on overall ongoing Basin efforts, and consideration of some specific recommendations, including:

- Board consideration of and approval and/or additional direction on supplemental water feasibility studies
- Recommendation to approve creation of a Basin Advisory Committee (due to expiration of Blue Ribbon Committee)
- Update on Basin management efforts, which covers:
  - Developing an enhanced AB 3030 Basin Management Plan
  - Coordination on potential special legislation
  - Discussion on a possible ordinance to prohibit exportation of water
  - Other staff direction
- Recommendation to approve a new Blue Ribbon Committee member representing the Farm Bureau

### **Feasibility Studies**

On August 27, 2013, the Board directed staff to proceed with the issuance of requests for statements of qualifications (SOQ) from consultant teams to prepare water supply feasibility studies for the Basin. In accordance with the “Central Services Board Approved Policy on Contracting for Services and Purchasing,” statements of qualifications for two feasibility studies were solicited and evaluated by a selection committee, which included County, City of San Luis Obispo and Central Coast Water Authority staff. Staff received statements from two teams and both were found to be qualified – Carollo Engineers and GEI Consultants. Both teams include sub-consultants to meet overall technical needs. Staff then conducted interviews with both teams to gain a better understanding of specific qualifications and how they may be employed to work on the feasibility studies.

The recommended approach for the feasibility studies, as reviewed by the Blue Ribbon Committee and presented to the Board on December 17, 2013, includes the following:

- A “Supplemental Water Supplies Options” Study, which will evaluate the sources of supply that may be available to help meet basin needs. The general approach to this work is consistent with the Flood Control District’s historical role of developing wholesale water projects.
- A “Basin Solutions Options” Study, which will evaluate and identify the most feasible options within the Basin for developing infrastructure within the basin to deliver and utilize the supplemental water that may be available. This work will therefore include analysis of hydrological conditions within sub-areas - where existing wells are going dry and groundwater

level declines are most problematic. The general approach to this work is consistent with efforts that would generally be expected of a groundwater management district, if one existed.

Both studies will be developed with a continuing commitment to public outreach and engagement.

#### Feasibility Study for Supplemental Water Supply Options

The attached agreement with Carollo Engineers for preparing a “Supplemental Water Supply Options” Feasibility Study for the Basin has been prepared for the Board’s consideration (Attachment “1”). This agreement is in a form that has been executed by the consultant and may be approved by your Board at this time. Alternatively, staff recognizes that the scope and fees are extensive (\$1.48 million) and will discuss approaches to phasing of the work that your Board may wish to consider. If your Board chooses to provide direction, such as phasing of work, then a modified agreement can be brought to your Board when the agreement for the “Basin Solutions Options” is also brought to your Board (discussed below).

As included in Attachment 1, the scope of work includes identifying and evaluating:

- Cost Estimates
- How much State Water, Salinas River Watershed Water, Nacimiento Water and Recycled Water may be available, including its quality/suitable uses
- When each water supply option may be available (i.e. how long into the future, duration, wet/normal/dry years)
- Alternative points of delivery to the Basin for each water supply option
- Other considerations including regulatory, contractual, environmental, financial, timing and public/institutional acceptance

The scope of work also includes an optional task to begin project development in the event that moving forward on any specific project becomes appropriate during the course of the studies. The following is a summary of the fee estimate:

#### Paso Basin Supply Options Study

Task 1	Preliminary Efforts	\$ 57,441
Task 2	Identification of Potential Supplies in Salinas River	\$ 247,006
Task 3	Identification of State Water Supplies	\$ 119,926
Task 4	Recycled Water Supplies	\$ 16,526
Task 5	Rough Screening	\$ 119,505
Task 6	Fine Screening Analysis	\$ 262,865
Task 7	Water Supply Options Report	\$ 108,415
Task 8	Public/Advisory Meetings	\$ 270,564
Task 9	Project Management/Meetings	\$ 126,355
Task 10	Coordinate with Basin Solutions team	\$ 20,634
Task 11	Optional Services	\$ 134,924
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,484,161</b>

## Feasibility Study for Basin Solutions Options

Staff is currently developing a scope of work and fee proposal with GEI Consultants to prepare a “Basin Solutions” Feasibility Study that is anticipated to be brought to the Board for consideration in mid-February. The scope of work includes identifying and evaluating:

- Identification and hydrogeological evaluation of specific areas within subareas that are of greatest concern
- Options and cost estimates for infrastructures to deliver and store supplemental water where it can be put to the greatest feasible beneficial use
- Re-evaluating and developing recommendations on short, medium and long-term Basin Management Objectives [BMOs]
- Other mechanisms (e.g. stormwater recharge to the Basin, injection wells, etc...) for meeting BMOs
- The regulatory, contractual, environmental, financial, timing and public/institutional acceptance considerations for each mechanism

## Consideration of an Agreement with Hollenbeck Consulting

The attached agreement with Hollenbeck Consulting to provide technical review of consultant deliverables during the course of the two studies has been prepared for the Board’s consideration (Attachment “2”). Hollenbeck Consulting was included as a subconsultant for both of the qualified consultant teams. Mr. Hollenbeck has specific expertise on the Nacimiento Project, and in the course of developing consultant contracts, staff now believes it will be more effective to hire Hollenbeck Consulting directly. In summary, this approach will result in Mr. Hollenbeck working in a role as a professional engineer technical advisor in support of Ms. Howard’s overall management of the work efforts. The fee estimate for Hollenbeck Consulting is \$90,000.

## Recommendation on Basin Advisory Committee

The Blue Ribbon Committee, created Mar 14, 2012, is a temporary committee (not subject to the Maddy Act) terminates on March 14, 2014. Temporary committees cannot exist for more than two years. Therefore, staff recommends creating the attached Basin Advisory Committee (Attachment “3”) in order to continue to have an organized forum for stakeholders to discuss Basin issues and provide formal policy recommendations to your Board. If approved by your Board, vacancies can be posted and qualified applicants can be solicited in accordance with Maddy Act requirements. Recommendations for appointments can be brought to the Board for approval in time to continue Advisory meetings in April 2014.

The Blue Ribbon Committee supported this recommendation during its January 16, 2014 meeting, with two changes to Attachment “3”:

- Add a City of San Luis Obispo member
- Designate one of the six Rural At-Large members to be At-Large (Undesignated)

## Recommendation on Farm Bureau Appointment to the Blue Ribbon Committee Membership Update

The San Luis Obispo County Farm Bureau has new staff assigned to participate on the Blue Ribbon Committee and the Board’s approval of the new membership appointment as shown in bold in Attachment “4” is needed at this time.

## AB 3030 Basin Management Plan/Special Legislation

During its January 16, 2014 meeting, the Blue Ribbon Committee also considered and approved recommendations associated with 1) an update to the AB 3030 Plan for the Basin and 2) special legislation concept presented by PRAAGS and PRO Water Equity. Staff is scheduled to include these recommendations on the Water Resources Advisory Committee's February 5, 2014 agenda for their consideration, prior to bringing recommendations to the Board in February.

### Other Staff Direction

During the Board's Conservation and Open Space Element (COSE) item on December 3, 2013, the possibility of developing an ordinance that prohibits the exportation of groundwater outside the County was discussed. Staff continues to coordinate with the Planning Department on efforts associated with implementing the strategies identified in the COSE, particularly as they relate to potential Basin management strategies.

### **OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT**

The Blue Ribbon Committee is the primary advisory body for the Basin.

Local agencies, such as the City of Paso Robles, Templeton Community Services District and Atascadero Mutual Water Company, and advisory groups, such as the Water Resources Advisory Committee, and other community, agricultural and economic advisory committees, are engaged in the short, medium and long term efforts associated with management of the Basin.

Coordination with the Administrative Office, Agricultural Commissioner's Office, County Counsel, Planning and Building Department and Public Health Department is also occurring on issues associated with the Paso Basin.

Correspondence from the San Luis Obispo County Farm Bureau is included in Attachment "4".

County Counsel has reviewed the Agreements as to legal form and effect.

### **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Efforts associated with implementation of the Basin Plan are included in Fund 19 of the Flood Control District, whose revenue source is Flood Control District Reserves. The Flood Control Fund 19 budget for the current fiscal year is \$527,542, and approximately \$286,064 has been expended to date. Authorization of a budget adjustment in the amount of \$1,574,161 from Flood Control District reserves in Fund 1300000000 to Flood Control Fund 19 for the Supply Options Study and Technical Assistance Agreements by 4/5 vote is needed at the time and to the extent that your Board approves consulting services. District Reserves are currently at \$12,635,180.

### **RESULTS**

Approving the agreements and continuing with Basin management efforts under existing Board direction will help to ensure the Basin is effectively managed so it can remain a reliable source of water for all of its users, contributing to safe, healthy, livable, prosperous and well-governed communities.

File: CF 500.132.01 Groundwater Study – Paso Robles Management Plan

Reference: 14JAN28-BB-2

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### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Vicinity Map
2. Attachment 1 - Supply Options Study Agreement
3. Attachment 2 - Technical Assistance Agreement
4. Attachment 3 - Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Advisory Committee
5. Attachment 4 - Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Management Plan Steering Committee